

ABSTRACT

An intraluminal stent made of a zig-zag or sinusoidal member defining a successive series of struts connected by apex sections and formed into a series of axially displaced hoop members wherein at least one of the hoop members has at least one strut connected to a strut of an adjacent hoop. The connected struts may be connected by spot welding, continuous welding, or suturing, for example, or by a bridging member connected to each strut, and may be spaced along the length of the stent in a pattern to form a connective spine. The number of zigs of the zig-zag member in each hoop member may be varied, as can the zig length. A plurality of connective spines may also be included.